

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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R 041324Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6212

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR EG

SUBJECT: CORPS OF ENGINEERS STUDY OF NILE DELTA

REF: STATE 175467

1. AMBASSADOR HAS AGAIN DISCUSSED WITH FON MIN FAHMY FEASIBILITY OF COE REP FRED BROWN MAKING OFFICIAL VISIT TO EGYPT IN SEPTEMBER TO REVIEW CURRENT EGYPTIAN CONTROL MEASURES IN NILE DELTA. (IN PREVIOUS TALK FAHMY SAID HE WISHED WAIT UNTIL AFTER NEW EGYPT-ISRAELI AGREEMENT REACHED) FAHMY WAS AGREEABLE IN PRINCIPLE AND SUGGESTED THAT AMBASSADOR CALL ON MINISTER OF IRRIGATION TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. FAHMY'S OFFICE WILL CONTACT MINISTER OF IRRIGATION'S OFFICE IN ADVANCE TO INDICATE NO RPT NO POLITICAL OBJECTION.

2. BEFORE APPROACHING MINISTER OF IRRIGATION, AMBASSADOR REQUESTS CLARIFICATION OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RECENTLY INITIATED EPA STUDY OF THE NILE RIVER AND PROPOSED COE STUDY. IF THE TWO ARE SIMILAR, THEY SHOULD BE COMBINED. WE SHOULD NOT OVERLOAD THE NILE VALLEY RESEARCH CIRCUIT WITH OVERLAPPING PROJECTS. IF THEY ARE SUFFICIENTLY DIFFERENT SO THAT A REASONABLE CASE CAN BE MADE TO EGYPTIANS WHY TWO USG AGENCIES SHOULD BE SEPARATELY CONCERNED WITH THE NILE, AMBASSADOR IS PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT WITH MINISTER OF IRRIGATION.

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3. DEPT AND COE SHOULD KNOW THAT DR. KHALIL MANSI

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, WHO IS THE PRINCIPAL
INVESTIGATOR OF EPA PROJECT, HAS JUST RETURNED TO THE US
AFTER SPENDING THE SUMMER HERE. HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DESCRIBE
LATEST THINKING RE HIS PROJECT. HE EXPECTS TO RETURN TO
EGYPT IN DECEMBER.
EILTS

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